

P19485.A11

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 9-13 will have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that the present application is in condition for allowance, except for the presence of non-elected and withdrawn claims 9-13. Specifically, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-7 and 14-16 are allowed. In order to facilitate the allowance of the present application, Applicants cancel claims 9-13 without prejudice, and reserve the right to file a divisional application regarding same.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims in the present application are allowable and an indication to such effect is respectfully requested, in due course.

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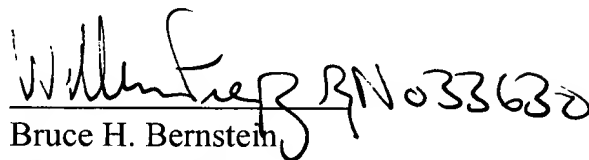
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully request an indication to that effect.

Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Tetsuya UTSUI et al.

 *Handwritten signature of Bruce H. Bernstein, with 'RN 033630' written to the right.*

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